

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 03833 181606Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----019167 181610Z /43

O R 181505Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1997
AMEMBASSY KABUL IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 3833

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS
TAGS: SHUM, AF
SUBJ: HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN

REF: (A) STATE 126022; (B) KABUL 3933

1. DCM CALLED ON MFA DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL (POLITICAL) SUBASI AFTERNOON MAY 18 PURSUANT TO INSTRUCTIONS IN REF A. DCM SUMMARIZED FULLY REF B AND ASKED IF GOT HAD SIMILAR REPORTS. SUBASI SAID GOT HAD RECEIVED SIMILAR INFORMATION FROM THEIR KABUL EMBASSY DURING PAST TWO DAYS. FURTHERMORE TURK CHARGE' HAD REPORTED THAT A GROUP OF DIPLOMATIC WIVES IN KABUL PLANNED JOINT DEMARCHE REGARDING WOMEN AND CHILDREN TAKEN PRISONER. CHARGE' HAD ASKED WHETHER TURKISH EMBASSY SHOULD ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH THAT APPROACH. MATTER WAS NOW UNDER DISCUSSION BUT PREVAILING VIEW IN GOT WAS THAT SUCH A DEMARCHE WOULD DO NO GOOD.

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2. DRAWING ON REF B, DCM SAID THAT OUR AMBASSADOR IN KABUL HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RAISE OUR HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS WITH NEW AFGHAN GOVERNMENT. WE HOPED THAT GOT WOULD BE WILLING TO MAKE A PARALLEL APPROACH. WE WERE NOT SUGGESTING A JOINT DEMARCHE, BUT SIMPLY SUGGESTING THAT IF SEVERAL GOVERNMENTS WHOM WE BELIEVED HAD SOME INFLUENCE IN KABUL, RAISED ISSUE, LIVES MIGHT BE SAVED. IF SOMETHING WERE TO BE DONE, HOWEVER, IT MUST BE DONE QUICKLY.

3. SUBASI AGREED TO CONSIDER OUR REQUEST BUT REITERATED HIS GOVERNMENT'S SKEPTICISM THAT SUCH APPROACHES WOULD HAVE ANY PRACTICAL EFFECT. HE ASKED IF WE WERE MAKING SUCH AN APPROACH IN MOSCOW, NOTING THAT IT WAS THE SOVIETS WHO COULD TURN OFF THE KILLING IF THEY WISHED.

4. DURING BRIEF DISCUSSION, SUBASI NOTED THAT TURKS NOW HAD NO INFLUENCE WHATSOEVER IN KABUL. HE OBSERVED THAT IT WAS ONLY WITH AND EARLIER AFGHAN GENERATION THAT THERE HAD BEEN A TURKISH TIE. HE CITED THE PRESENT AFGHAN AMBASSADOR IN ANKARA, GENERAL SAID, AS AN EXAMPLE. HE HAD BEEN IN TURKEY AS A YOUNG MAN, AND SPOKE TURKISH FLUENTLY. DCM REMARKED THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT AMBASSADOR SAID HAD BEEN RECALLED BUT THAT HE DID NOT PLAN TO RETURN BECAUSE HIS LIFE WOULD BE ENDANGERED. SUBASI REPLIED THAT IT WAS TRUE THAT AMBASSADOR HAD BEEN RECALLED, THAT HE HAD NOT HEARD WHAT HE PLANNED TO DO, BUT THAT IT WOULD NOT SURPRISE HIM IF SAID REFUSED TO RETURN. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIN, HE SAID GOT WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION IF SAID WISHED TO REMAIN IN TURKEY.

5. TAKING LEAVE, DCM REMARKED THAT AFGHANISTAN IN FUTURE WOULD PROBABLY BE AS TIGHTLY TIED TO SOVIET ORBIT AS BULGARIA. SUBASI LAUGHED AND SAID THAT AFGHANISTAN WOULD BE LUCKY TO BE AS INDEPENDENT AS BULGARIA. HE THOUGHT TAJIKISTAN WAS THE MORE APT PARALLEL. SPIERS

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